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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SACRED LITERATURE.

THE BIBLE STUDENTS' READING GUILD.

Local Chapters—The following topics, to be used at Chapter meetings during November, are suggested. Care should be taken to select such subjects as will make a complete and rounded programme, that is, touching every side of the subject. Not more than five subjects and a map drill should be upon any one programme:

1. A comparison of the preaching of Jesus and John the Baptist, (*a*) as to subject matter, (*b*) as to manner.
2. The Galilean cities of Nazareth and Capernaum.
3. Some possible reasons for Christ's selection of Galilee as a field of work.
4. A synagogue service. Describe it and picture the scene of the "rejection at Nazareth."
5. Christ's miracles of physical healing in the first and second periods of the Galilean ministry.
 - (1) The attitude of mind of those seeking to be healed.
 - (2) Christ's recorded motives in healing them.
 - (3) The method of healing.
 - (4) The results upon the patient and upon the spectators.
 - (5) The several charges to secrecy.
6. Did spiritual healing always accompany the physical healing? If so, what was the relation of the two, in time and as respects cause and effect?
7. The paralytic borne of four,—the house; the scene; the act of healing; the effect upon the beholders; the spirit manifested by the Scribes who were present.
8. Christ's attitude toward the social life of his time.
9. The Sabbath question,—its rise, and the reasons for its continued prominence.
10. The choosing of the twelve, their previous relations with Jesus; the purpose for which they were chosen; the reason why a small body of disciples was thus commissioned rather than all the disciples.
11. The ideal of Christian character, and the ideal of Christian living as set forth in the Sermon on the Mount.
12. Christ's ideal of righteousness *v.s.* the righteousness of the Pharisees.
13. The circumstances attending the raising of the widow's son and of Jairus' daughter.

14. The significance of Jesus' answer to the messengers from John the Baptist.
15. Demoniacal possession: (a) its characteristics, (b) Jesus' methods of dealing with it, (c) the attitude of the evil spirits toward him.
16. Jesus' reasons for teaching in parables as stated or implied in the gospels.
17. The teachings concerning the Kingdom of Heaven contained in the "parables by the sea."
18. Formulate the charges made by the Scribes and Pharisees against Jesus, and the counter charges made by Jesus up to the close of the second period of the Galilean ministry.
19. The permanent principles embodied in Jesus' address to his apostles before sending them out to preach and to heal.
20. The death of John the Baptist as a commentary upon his life.
21. The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand and the resulting crisis.
22. The Bread of Life discourse from the standpoint of the listener of that time.
23. Jesus' position as to friends and foes at the end of this period.
24. A study of Matthew's quotations from the Old Testament.
25. The Map Drill should be continued from week to week.

For the convenience of those commencing the reading late the division of work for the year is given below:

October: Seidel—*In the Time of Jesus*, pp. 1-93, Edersheim—*Sketches of Jewish Social Life*, pp. 1-138; BIBLICAL WORLD (July) Geography of Palestine, (August) Editorials and Geography of Palestine. *November*: Seidel—*In the Time of Jesus*, pp. 93-192; Edersheim—*Sketches of Jewish Social Life*, pp. 138-295; BIBLICAL WORLD (September, October) Editorials, Geography of Palestine. *December*: *Harmony*—Parts I., II., III.; Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 1-149; BIBLICAL WORLD (November, December) Geography of Palestine. *January*: *Harmony*—Parts IV. and V.; Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 149-298; BIBLICAL WORLD (January) Teachings of Jesus, I. *February*: *Harmony*—Part VI., and Chapter XXV. of Part VII.; Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 299-402; BIBLICAL WORLD (February) Teachings of Jesus, II. *March*: *Harmony*—Part VII., from Chapter XXVI; Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 403-491; BIBLICAL WORLD (March) Teachings of Jesus, III. *April*: *Harmony* Part VIII; Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 493-776; BIBLICAL WORLD (April) Teachings of Jesus, IV. *May*: *Harmony*—Part IX. Hanna—*Life of Christ*, pp. 777-861; Bushnell—*Character of Jesus*; BIBLICAL WORLD (May) Teachings of Jesus, V. *June*: Brooks—*Influence of Jesus*; BIBLICAL WORLD (June) Teachings of Jesus, VI.

PRIZE EXAMINATIONS IN HEBREW, NEW TESTAMENT GREEK, AND THE ENGLISH BIBLE, OPEN TO COLLEGE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

Conditions of Entrance. No fee is required for any of these examinations.—The examinations in Hebrew and New Testament Greek are open to all students entering the first year class in a Theological Seminary in the Autumn of 1895, provided such students are college men or women whose graduation took place not earlier than June, 1894.

The examination in the English Bible is open to all college students in the Junior and Senior years of the course.

Application must be made on the official blank which will be provided by the Institute to all persons wishing to enter. The signature of a member of the Faculty of the institution with which the student is connected when making application for the examination is required.

Dates.—The examinations in Hebrew and New Testament Greek will take place *October 10, 1895*, in whatever institution the candidate or candidates may be located.

The examination in the English Bible will take place *June 1, 1895*, in all colleges in which there may be one or more candidates.

Enrollment for the examinations in Hebrew and New Testament Greek should be made before April 1, 1895. Candidates will be accepted, however, as late as July 1, or even later if sufficient excuse for the delay is presented.

Enrollment for the examination in the English Bible should be made at once. Candidates cannot be accepted later than April 1.

The prizes for the Hebrew and New Testament Greek will be awarded December 1, 1895, and for the English Bible October 1, 1895.

Prizes.—The prizes to be awarded in these examinations are as follows:

1. \$100.00 for the best paper in Hebrew.
2. \$50.00 for the second best paper in Hebrew.
3. \$100.00 for the best paper in New Testament Greek.
4. \$50.00 for the second best paper in New Testament Greek.
5. \$100.00 for the best paper in the English Bible.
6. \$50.00 for the second best paper in the English Bible.

The name of the successful contestants, and of the institutions with which they are connected, will be published in the secular and religious press of the United States and Canada.

Judges.—In connection with each examination the best twelve papers will be selected and these twelve will be submitted to a committee of competent judges for further selection. All possible precautions will be taken in order

¹ This condition is simply to insure good faith on the part of the applicant, and as a guarantee of his eligibility. Special arrangements will be made in the case of applicants not connected with any institution at the date of application.

that the judges may have no clue to the identity of the writers. The prizes will be awarded solely on the intrinsic merit of the papers.

The judges of the Hebrew papers will be Professor Samuel Ives Curtiss, of the Chicago Theological Seminary, Professor William Henry Green, of the Princeton Theological Seminary, and Professor D. G. Lyon of Harvard University.

The judges of the papers in New Testament Greek will be Professor William Arnold Stevens, of Rochester Theological Seminary, Professor Charles F. Bradley, of Garrett Biblical Institute, and Professor J. S. Riggs, of Auburn Theological Seminary.

The judges of the papers in the English Bible will be President George S. Burroughs, of Wabash College, Professor F. K. Sanders, of Yale, and Professor W. W. Moore, of the Union Theological Seminary Hampden-Sidney, Virginia.

Method of Conducting.—The examinations will be conducted by a member of the faculty in each institution in which an examination is to be held. The questions, twenty in number, furnished him by the Institute, under seal, will be opened in the presence of the class, in a room which he shall name. Three consecutive hours at such a period of the day as shall be most convenient for examiner and candidates will be allowed for each examination. (For dates see above.)

The names of all candidates in his college or Seminary will be officially reported by the Institute to the examiner, one month previous to the dates of the examinations. The examiner will meet the candidates as soon as possible after that time, and will appoint the hour and place of the examination, and explain its necessary details. He will also notify all candidates who may be absent from the meeting.

Character of the Examinations.—It will be the endeavor of those preparing the questions to present a series of clear, definite and somewhat comprehensive questions, which will be a fair and approximately accurate test of the ability and knowledge of the student. They will be more difficult than an ordinary college examination in these subjects. It is suggested therefore that each candidate make a careful study of the outlines, which will be printed in the official announcement of the examinations, and test his knowledge of them.

N. B. The Institute reserves the privilege of withdrawing one or all of these examinations should an insufficient number of candidates apply. A total of twenty-five candidates in either subject will be deemed a sufficient number.

¹For forms of application and announcements address the office of the Institute, Hyde Park, Chicago, Ills.

²As there is no income to the Institute from this work the courtesy of return postage will be appreciated.